



# ST ALBAN

Parish Newsletter – 14<sup>th</sup> February 2021  
+ Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

## MASS TIMES

### NO PUBLIC MASSES

**Mass will be live streamed daily:**

<b>Monday:</b>	<b>Funeral Maria De Vito</b>
<b>Tuesday:</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>
<b>Wednesday:</b>	<b>9.30am – Ash Wednesday</b>
<b>Thursday:</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
<b>Friday:</b>	<b>9.30am</b>
<b>Saturday:</b>	<b>6pm</b>
<b>Sunday:</b>	<b>10am</b>

### Please note:

The obligation to attend Sunday Mass remains suspended.

## Contact Info

Parish Priest  
Rev Dermot O'Neill

Parish Secretary  
Jackie Sheils  
Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9-1

51 Nether Street  
Finchley  
London  
N12 7NN  
020 8446 0224  
[finchleynorth@rcdow.org.uk](mailto:finchleynorth@rcdow.org.uk)

Safeguarding  
Claudia Clayman  
[finchleynorthsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk](mailto:finchleynorthsg@safeguardrcdow.org.uk)

## Parish website

Visit our website  
[parish.rcdow.org.uk/finchleynorth](http://parish.rcdow.org.uk/finchleynorth)  
for all weekly updates and  
**Children's liturgy lessons.**

<b>First reading:</b>	<b>Leviticus 13:1-2, 44-46</b>
<b>Responsorial Psalm:</b>	<b><i>You are my refuge, O Lord; you fill me with the joy of salvation.</i></b>
<b>Second Reading:</b>	<b>1 Corinthians 10:31, 11:1</b>
<b>Gospel:</b>	<b>Ephesians 1:17, 18</b>

For Lepers, the law of Leviticus must have seemed very harsh. They could not live in the camp with anyone. They had to warn people that they were coming. Actually, any skin disease was considered leprosy unless proven otherwise. The Book of Leviticus devotes two chapters (13 and 14) to laws requiring a period of separation and examination before anyone with skin lesion is allowed back into the camp. Leprosy was worse than other ailments because the opening on the skin often exposed blood, the source of life, and any contact with blood made a person unclean.

Every Jew reading Mark's account of the Gospel would have been familiar with the laws regarding leprosy. When Jesus touched the leper to heal him, Jew's collectively gasped. Not even the prophet Elisha (2 Kings 5) cured a leper this way. Touching the leper made Jesus unclean, yet neither he nor Mark seem concerned. The encounter with the leper again shows Jesus confronting the conditions that separate people from each other. The possessed man was disturbed and frightening; Peter's mother-in-law could not fulfill her place in the family; the leper is alienated by the unclean nature of his disease. In each case, by word or touch, Jesus restores the person to the family and the community.

Mark adds two interesting details to this story. First, Jesus us 'moved with pity' for the man. Mark, who tells the story of Jesus more simply than the other Gospels, described Jesus' emotional state. This makes Mark's portrayal of Jesus very human. But he also emphasizes the healing power of Jesus to show his divine identity. Second, as he did with the demons, Jesus urges the leper to tell no one. Jesus did not want followers based solely on his ability to heal. If we were to hear all of verse 45 in this reading, we would understand what Jesus feared. He is no longer able to move about openly because people flock to him seeking healing. In the face of their preoccupation with physical healing, his message may well be lost.

### NO PUBLIC MASS UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE

Our church will be closed for public Mass until further notice. Mass will be streamed daily. Times of daily Mass can be found on the left-hand side of this newsletter.

### DONATE TO THE CHURCH

Thank you to all who have converted their weekly contribution to Direct Debit. This has been a great asset to us. If you wish to join the planned giving scheme in our Parish, please contact the Parish office by email, if possible or visit our website for more information. Alternatively, simply set up a direct debit:

A/c name: WRCDDT St Alban North Finchley-  
Sort code: 40-05-20  
A/c No: 51094491  
Reference: Your name/donation

## Parish QR code

For online donations



## Sacraments

Under current COVID restrictions:

**Baptisms:** No more than 6 people at the ceremony. To arrange a baptism please contact Fr Dermot.

**Funerals:** It is the normal procedure to first contact your chosen Funeral Director. They will liaise with Fr Dermot. At present only 30 mourners can attend the church service.

**Weddings:** Preparation for marriage: Six months' notice is required. Please contact Fr Dermot.

## Newsletter

If you wish to receive a copy of our weekly newsletter by email, please sign up by using the website e-Alert or email the parish office to request.



## RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION OF ADULTS

Considering the difficulties everyone is facing just now, we are all the more delighted to be welcoming new members to our Parish community! At the Easter Vigil Jaimin and Mutsilu will be Baptised, Moi-Maree and Catherine (with her children Freddie and Lily) will be Received into the Church and Rosanna will be Confirmed. In normal times, on the First Sunday of Lent, they would be attending Westminster Cathedral for the Rite of Election with Cardinal Vincent Nichols and his Auxiliary Bishops but because of the current restrictions, the Cardinal has delegated the presiding over this ceremony to the Parish Priests in their churches. So at the **10 am Mass on Sunday 21st February**, Fr Dermot will be inviting our Catechumens and Candidates to prepare for the Easter Sacraments at this Rite celebrated in St Alban's Church. This Mass will be live-streamed so all parishioners can participate virtually. Please pray for them as they make their journey of continuing conversion.

## ST BARNABAS FOODBANK

St Barnabas Foodbank at 913 High Road North Finchley, accepts donations of food each Saturday between 9.30 & 12.30. They are open for those in need on Mondays 12.30 – 2pm.

## RESTORED LIVES

Monday 8th February 2022 for nine weeks (via Zoom). This ecumenical resource is designed to enable individuals to recover from relationship breakdown. Through facilitated sessions guests are provided with the tools and insights to resolve the emotional impact of separation and divorce. To book your place on the course visit [https://www.restoredlives.org/online\\_course\\_relationship\\_breakdown](https://www.restoredlives.org/online_course_relationship_breakdown)

## CAFOD

Daily Walk? Something positive this Lent. Could you walk 10000 Steps either on one day or everyday this Lent? The walk could be a sign of your solidarity with all those who do not have access to a safe water source and who have to walk for water each day. Find out more or sign up online at [cafod.org.uk/walk](http://cafod.org.uk/walk) and go the distance this Lent and help to end water poverty.

**CAFOD** Westminster is looking for volunteers. Are you a good communicator who would enjoy speaking about our work in a Parish or School? Please get in touch with us on [westminster@cafod.org.uk](mailto:westminster@cafod.org.uk) or 020 8449-6970 to find out more and book a place on one of our CAFOD online information sessions.

## LINK TO FR BERNARD'S REQUIEM MASS

<http://www.dejavuvideo.co.uk/stmarys/>

Also see Parish Website for Fr Bernard's obituary and link to the Mass.

**Please remember in your prayers the sick:**

**all the recently departed and their loved ones.**

Jane Evans

Maria De Vito, Fr Bernard McCumiskey

**and the faithful departed whose anniversaries occur at about this time:**

Bernard Grant, Patrick O'Brien

Helen Gardner

Margaret Kennedy

